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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE:	May 1, 2002	FILE NO:	APPM/3191.03/CPI/L/B/PJS
TO:	M. L. PADGETT	FAX NO:	703-872-9311
COMPANY:	USPTO		
FROM:	Robb D. Edmonds	PAGE(S):	10 with cover
MESSAGE:	Original to Follow <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		

**OFFICIAL FAX
 RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 12, 2002**

U.S. Serial No. 09/388,989
 Filing Date: September 2, 1999
 Inventor: Cohen, et al.
 Group Art Unit: 1762
 Confirmation No: 4766
 Examiner: M. Padgett
 For: Sequential Sputter and Reactive Preclean
 of Vias and Contacts

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ATTY. DKT. NO. APPM/3191.03/CP/LB/PJS PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Cohen, et al.

Serial No.: 09/388,989

Confirmation No.: 4766

Filed: September 2, 1999

For: Sequential Sputter And
Reactive Precleans Of
Vias And Contacts

Group Art Unit: 1762

Examiner: M. Padgett

BOX AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE
TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the fax number indicated by the Examiner, Marianne Padgett, fax number 703-872-9311, to the attention of the named Examiner, on the date below.

5/1/2002 *Lobl D Edmonch*
Date Signature

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 12, 2002

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 12, 2002 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 12, 2002, please enter the following response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 29 and 30 as shown below:

1. A method for improving metal deposition on a patterned dielectric layer, comprising:
- cleaning the patterned dielectric layer in a processing chamber with a first plasma comprising predominantly argon;
 - cleaning the patterned dielectric layer in the processing chamber with a second plasma consisting essentially of hydrogen and helium; and

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ok to enter 5/7/02